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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

September 26, 2001

Applicant(s) : Joachim WIECHERS, et al
For : ANALYSIS APPARATUS

#6
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R. Talbot

PCT International Application No.: PCT/EP00/05262

PCT International Filing Date: June 7, 2000

U.S. Application No.

(if known, see 37 CFR 1.5): Unknown

Atty. Docket No.: HPBC Case 83

Box PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97, the Applicants take this opportunity to call to the attention of the Examiner documents that may be material to the prosecution of this application.

This paper is being filed simultaneously with the nationalization of this application in the USPTO. Accordingly, it is not believed any fees are due in order to ensure consideration of the cited documents.

The documents the Applicants believe material are listed on the two copies of Form PTO-1449 attached hereto.

The Form PTO-1449, page 1 lists two United States patents and two German patent documents. Each of these documents was cited by the European Patent Office in its position as the International Searching Authority for the underlying PCT application. Accordingly, it is believed copies of these documents have been forwarded to the USPTO. If, however, copies of these documents are not in the Examiner's file for this application, a call to the undersigned attorney will result in delivery of replacement copies.

The relevance of the above described documents is set forth in the International Search Report and the International

Preliminary Examination Report issued by the EPO.
Accordingly, further commentary regarding their relevance is not believed necessary at this time.

The Form PTO-1449, page 2, lists 15 additional documents, 7 United States patents and 8 European or German documents. Copies of these documents are provided herewith.

As indicated by the table below, five of the cited German language European/German documents have in their patent families have corresponding United States patents copies of which are now enclosed.

<u>European/German Document</u>	<u>United States Equivalent</u>
EP 0 332 180A2	4,950,900
EP 0 780 681A2	5,764,354
EP 0 794 423A1	5,874,737
DE 197 42 053C1	6,075,246
EP 0 834 732A2	6,191,421

The Applicants also take this opportunity to call to that attention of the Patent and Trademark Office that, during the review of the German application from which this application claims priority, the German Patent Office cited the following documents for being relevant to the invention of this application: DE 197 42 053C1; DE 40 02 436A1; DE 34 37 397A1; DE 94 20 231U1; EP 0 332 180A2; and US 5 693 944. If requested by the Examiner, the Applicant will provide to the Patent and Trademark Office the documents from the German Patent Office in which the relevancy of the above discussed publications were discussed.

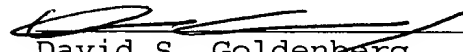
Serial No. Unknown
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Further commentary regarding the relevancy of these documents is not believed necessary at this time.

Respectfully submitted,


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Encl: Form PTO-1449 (2 pages) with copies of all
References cited on page 2

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